

Message Text

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SUBJECT: DIRECT RELAY

TO: GREGORY HARNEY
(OR ALAN POTTER)
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
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1. USTA/ITF TENNIS COACH STEVE DEVEREUX HAS TOLD ME OF RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH YOU AND WITH BUD COLLINS CONCERNING POSSIBILITY OF FILM OR TV COVERAGE OF UPCOMING GRAND PRIX TOURNAMENT AND ITF TENNIS CLINIC ACTIVITIES TO TAKE PLACE IN LAGOS IN LATE FEBRUARY AND EARLY MARCH. TENTATIVE SOUNDINGS WITH NIGERIAN TELEVISION NETWORK OFFICIALS HERE HAVE BEEN POSITIVE. THEY MIGHT LIKE TO COLLABORATE. FURTHERMORE, TOURNAMENT SPONSORS (DUNLOP AND NIGERIAN TOBACCO COMPANY) SEE A FILM OF THE TOURNAMVENT AS A MEANS OF MULTIPLYING THE PROMOTIONAL DIVIDEND OF THEIR SPONSORSHIP. FINALLY, WESTINGHOUSE USA HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN A FILM THAT WOULD PUT WESTINGHOUSE ON NIGERIAN TV SCREENS. GIVEN THE LOGISTICS AND OTHER DIFFICULTIES IN DHE LAGOS ENVIRONMENT, IT WOULD BE DIFF)CULT RRANGE FUDL-FLEDGED FILMING PROJECT DURING SHORT TIME REMAINING.

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HOWEVER, I BELIEVE THE TWO SPONSORS AND WESTINGHOUSE COULD EACH FIND MODEST FUNDS TO FINANCE ROUND-TRIP TICKETS TO LAGOS AND SEVERAL DAYS OF CONTACT WORK FOR TWO OR THREE MEMBERS OF YOUR WGBH STAFF DURING THE UPCOMING FESTIVITIES. GRAND PRIX FINALS ARE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 5. THIS WOULD IN EFFECT ENABLE YOU TO MAKE AN ON-THE-SPOT ANALYSIS OF FEASIBILITY AND MERITS OF A FULL-FLEDGED PROJECT A YEAR FROM NOW. THE

GRAND PRIX IS EXPECTED TO BE AN ANNUAL EVENT. I CANNOT RPT
CANNOT AT THIS TIME PROMISE YOU ANY COMMITMENT FROM THREE
MENTIONED COMPANIES BUT WANTED TO ALERT YOU THAT THE IDEA IS
VERY MUCH ALIVE. WILL CABLE YOU AGAIN AS SOON AS ADDITIONAL
TALKS WITH DUNLOP, NIGERIAN TOBACCO, WESTINGHOUSE AND NIGERIAN
TELEVISION HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.
EASUM

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED TO ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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